

U.S. Census Bureau *the Official Statistics*



**INTERNATIONAL TRADE
STATISTICS** *YOUR KEY TO TRADE*
U. S. C E N S U S B U R E A U

AESDirect
The Internet - Based AES
Filing Option

AESDirect

- Purpose
- Background
- Filing Option Details
- Other Related Provisions
- Status of the System



AESDirect

- ***AESDirect*** is the Census Bureau's free, Internet-based system for the filing of Shipper's Export Declaration (SED) information to the Automated Export System (AES). It is the electronic alternative to the paper SED and can be used by exporters, forwarders, or anyone else responsible for filing an SED.



Purpose

- Provide a new, easy-to-use Internet filing methodology for existing AES options.
- Eliminate more paper SEDs.
- Remove cost as an issue to AES participation.
- Increase participation in AES.



Background Information

- Over 450,000 SEDs processed each month.
- Approx. 30% of export transactions.
- 75 cents per transaction to process.
- \$3.7 million in FY 1999 - data capture.
- Target small and mid-size companies.
- Companies with little to invest to become AES enabled.



***AESDirect* - Filing Option Details**

- On-line interactive application and batch.
- Capture and edit shippers export info.
- Transmit to AES at Customs error free.
- Messages back to the filer.
- Retain, store and provide access to transactions.
- Report generation capabilities.
- Filing options 2 and 4.



Other Provisions

- Operational 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.
- Extensive tutorial.
- On-line help facility.
- Help desk 12 hours/day, 7 days a week.
- On-line registration.



How to sign up for and use *AESDirect*

- Sign on to www.aesdirect.gov
- Complete the on-line registration form.
- Review *AESDirect* terms and conditions.
- Complete the on-line tutorial.
- Receive email authorization that your AES account has been setup.
- Log in and start filing AES.



Cost to Users

- Access to and use by trade is free.
- Census Bureau will pay.
- Does not include other services provided by this or other contractors.
- Can be linked to from other sites.
- Available to exporters, freight forwarders, and carriers for SEDs - no manifests.



Current Participation

- *AESDirect* went into production 10/4/99
- Number of companies registered and passed the tutorial - 342
- Number of companies filing - 217
- Number of SEDs submitted:
 - Oct. through Dec. '99 8,612
 - April 2000 50,000
 - Jan. - April 2000 164,000



Major Enhancements

- *AESWebLink* June 2000
 - Integrate client web sites with *AESDirect*
 - Operates as an Internet plug-in
 - Client creates generic record with data
 - Record and control passed to *AESDirect*
 - *AESDirect* solicits remaining data
 - Developers kit available on *AESDirect*
- Customs proprietary format as shown
in the AESTIR May 2000



Where to find us.

AESDirect

www.aesdirect.gov

AES Help Line

1-800-549-0595

Chuck Woods

(301) 457-2200

FTD Internet site

www.census.gov/foreign-trade

